

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01
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FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6683
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
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USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, PDEV, WA, SF
SUBJECT: NAMIBIA TALKS: MORE LEAKS

1. THE SOUTH AFRICAN PRESS OF JAN. 29 AND 30 CARRIED ARTICLES
ON THE UPCOMING PROXIMITY TALKS WHICH FOCUS ON THE TROOP AND UN
PRESENCE ISSUE AND SUGGEST THAT IT WILL BE VERY DIFFICULT FOR
SOUTH AFRICA TO ACCEPT THE SETTLEMENT PLAN AS IT NOW STANDS.

2. AN ARTICLE BY FLEUR DE VILLIERS IN THE SUNDAY TIMES
OF JAN. 29 SAID "THE TOP SECRET WESTERN PROPOSALS FOR A
SOUTH WEST AFRICAN SETTLEMENT HAVE BEEN DISCLOSED TO THE
SUNDAY TIMES." THE SPECIFICS OF THE PROPOSAL, ACCORDING
TO THE ARTICLE, INCLUDE (1) A REDUCTION IN THE NUMBER OF
SOUTH AFRICAN TROOPS TO 1500, TO BE CONFINED TO GROOTFONTEIN
AND POSSIBLY ONE OTHER BASE, (2) A UN OBSERVER FORCE OF 3,000-
4,000 MEN TO BE DEPLOYED ON BOTH SIDES OF THE BORDER,
(3) A DISBANDING OF "ETHNIC CITIZEN UNITS," AND (4) ALL SOUTH
AFRICAN TROOPS TO QUIT THE TERRITORY AFTER ELECTIONS OF A
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CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY BUT BEFORE INDEPENDENCE. THE WESTERN
PACKAGE IS ALSO SAID TO INCLUDE THE "LOADED" STATEMENT
THAT "THE TRANSITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS AND THE ACTIONS
OF THE PARTIES IN CARRYING THEM OUT SHALL IN NO WAY
PREJUDICE THE TERRITORIAL CLAIMS OF ANY PARTY."
ACCORDING TO THE DE VILLIERS REPORT, "STICKY AREAS"
THAT COULD WRECK THE TALKS ARE SOUTH AFRICA'S

WARINESS OF WESTERN ASSURANCES AND THE SOUTH AFRICAN LONG-
STATED COMMITMENT TO KEEPING TROOPS IN THE TERRITORY UNTIL
AN INDEPENDENT SWA GOVERNMENT ASKED THEM TO LEAVE.

3. THE CAPE TIMES OF JAN. 30 CARRIED MUCH THE SAME
STORY, BUT WITH SOME VARIATIONS. THE ARTICLE
QUOTED "INFORMED SOURCES" TO THE EFFECT THAT ONLY
1500 SOUTH AFRICAN TROOPS WILL BE ALLOWED TO STAY
ON DURING THE TRANSITION PERIOD AND THAT THEY WILL
BE CONFINED TO THE SOUTHERN BORDER AREA. ANY TROOPS
IN THE NORTH, THE ARTICLE SUGGESTS, WILL BE CONFINED
TO BARRACKS AT GROOTFONTEIN AND ONDONGWA. THE
ARTICLE ALSO STATES THAT SOUTH AFRICA WILL BE ASKED
TO WITHDRAW ITS TROOPS PRIOR TO INDEPENDENCE AND THAT ANGOLA
AND ZAMBIA ARE WILLING TO ALLOW UN TROOPS TO BE STATIONED ON
THEIR BORDERS. IT ADDS THAT THE PROPOSALS WILL BE MADE PUBLIC IN
NEW YORK NEXT WEEK. IN CONCLUSION, THE ARTICLE
STATES THAT THE DEMAND FOR A SOUTH AFRICA TROOP CUT TO 1500
WAS "SWAPO INSPIRED." IT ADDS IN MUCH THE SAME VEIN AS THE
SUNDAY TIMES THAT "THE SHIFT IN THE WESTERN STANCES TOWARDS
SWA/NAMIBIA--AND PARTICULARLY THE SUGGESTION THAT SOUTH AFRICA
WITHDRAW HER TROOPS BEFORE INDEPENDENCE--MADE IT EXTREMELY
DIFFICULT FOR SOUTH AFRICA TO ACCEPT THE WESTERN
BLUEPRINT. THE REPUBLIC HAS INSISTED THAT
SOUTH AFRICAN TROOPS WILL REMAIN IN THE TERRITORY
UNTIL REQUESTED BY AN INDEPENDENT SOUTH WEST AFRICAN GOVERNMENT
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TO LEAVE OR STAY."

4. COMMENT: WE CANNOT PINPOINT SOURCE OF THESE STORIES.
THE GENERAL TENOR OF THEM AGAIN SUGGEST OFFICIAL INSPIRATION.
BOWDLER

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